Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Deiny Gudiel, a resident of Hamden. I am an immigrant from Guatemala and I care about this legislation because health insurance is important for children under 18.

I stand in support of SB284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

Giving access to our children is important in this pandemic because they are the most vulnerable to the medical consequences associated with not having health insurance. Sometimes, because we are immigrants, we cannot take the children to the clinic because we do not have health insurance. Last year I had a lot of trouble trying to get health insurance after having my daughter. Because of my immigration status, everything got complicated.

Having access to health insurance would help our community stay healthy and children would be able to go to the clinic without a problem.

I support S.B. 284 and I ask the committee to support and pass this legislation. Looking forward, I ask the committee to work towards opening access to all community members in CT regardless of age or status.

Thank you for your time, Deiny Gudiel